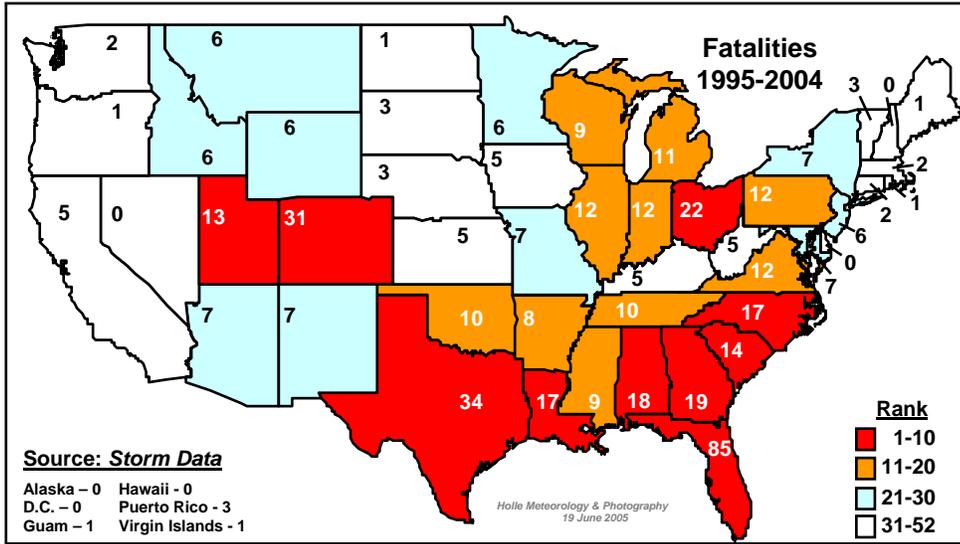
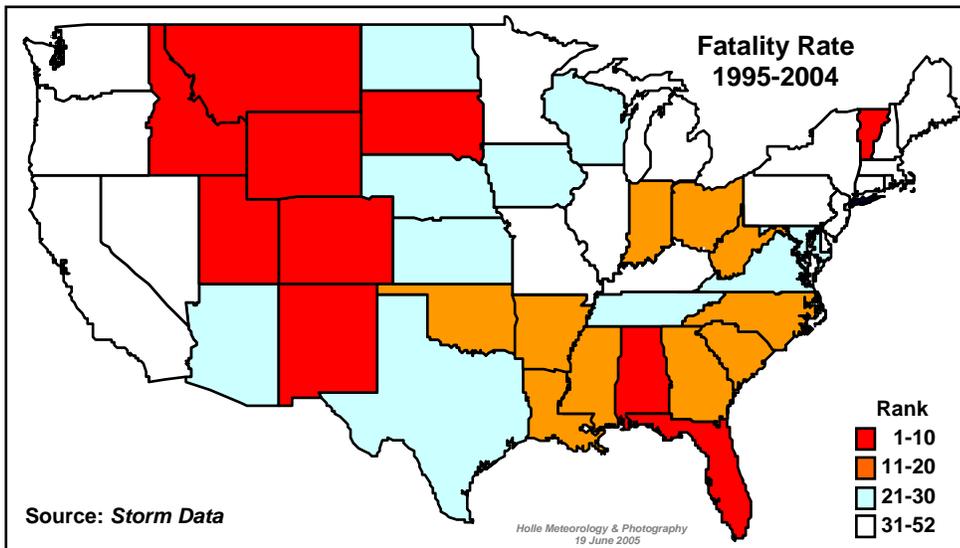


Lightning Deaths by State, 1995 to 2004



Lightning Deaths Weighted by Population by State 1995 to 2004



Ronald L. Holle
June 2005

**NUMBER OF LIGHTNING DEATHS
BY STATE FROM 1995 TO 2004**

| State | Deaths 1995-2004 | Rank of Deaths | State | Deaths 1995-2004 | Rank of Deaths |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Alabama | 18 | 6 | New Jersey | 6 | 29 |
| Alaska | 0 | 47 | New Mexico | 7 | 24 |
| Arizona | 7 | 21 | New York | 7 | 25 |
| Arkansas | 8 | 20 | North Carolina | 17 | 8 |
| California | 5 | 31 | North Dakota | 1 | 44 |
| Colorado | 31 | 3 | Ohio | 22 | 4 |
| Connecticut | 2 | 40 | Oklahoma | 10 | 16 |
| Delaware | 0 | 48 | Oregon | 1 | 45 |
| D.C. | 0 | 49 | Pennsylvania | 12 | 13 |
| Florida | 85 | 1 | Puerto Rico | 3 | 37 |
| Georgia | 19 | 5 | Rhode Island | 1 | 46 |
| Hawaii | 0 | 50 | South Carolina | 14 | 9 |
| Idaho | 6 | 26 | South Dakota | 3 | 38 |
| Illinois | 12 | 11 | Tennessee | 10 | 17 |
| Indiana | 12 | 12 | Texas | 34 | 2 |
| Iowa | 5 | 32 | Utah | 13 | 10 |
| Kansas | 5 | 33 | Vermont | 3 | 39 |
| Kentucky | 5 | 34 | Virginia | 12 | 14 |
| Louisiana | 17 | 7 | Washington | 2 | 42 |
| Maine | 1 | 43 | West Virginia | 5 | 35 |
| Maryland | 7 | 22 | Wisconsin | 9 | 19 |
| Massachusetts | 2 | 41 | Wyoming | 6 | 30 |
| Michigan | 11 | 15 | | | |
| Minnesota | 6 | 27 | | | |
| Mississippi | 9 | 18 | United States | 489 | |
| Missouri | 7 | 23 | | | |
| Montana | 6 | 28 | | | |
| Nebraska | 3 | 36 | | | |
| Nevada | 0 | 51 | | | |
| New Hampshire | 0 | 52 | | | |

One death each occurred in Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2003.

The lightning fatality data were collected by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). They come from monthly and annual summaries compiled by the National Weather Service and published in monthly issues of *Storm Data*. Data for recent years are available at:
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hazstats.shtml>.

This table for the period from 1959 to 1994 is included in the following article:
Curran, E.B., R.L. Holle, and R.E. López,
2000: Lightning casualties and damages in

the United States from 1959 to 1994. *Journal of Climate*, **13**, 3448-3453.
The 1959-1994 information is also available at the National Severe Storms Laboratory web site:
<http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/papers/techmemos/NWS-SR-193/techmemo-sr193.html>

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**RANK OF POPULATION-WEIGHTED LIGHTNING
DEATHS BY STATE FROM 1995 TO 2004**

| State | Death Rate Per Million People from 1995 to 2004 | Rank of Death Rate Per Million | State | Death Rate Per Million People from 1995 to 2006 | Rank of Death Rate Per Million |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Wyoming | 1.21 | 1 | Wisconsin | 0.17 | 26 |
| Colorado | 0.72 | 2 | Texas | 0.16 | 27 |
| Montana | 0.66 | 3 | North Dakota | 0.16 | 28 |
| Utah | 0.58 | 4 | Arizona | 0.14 | 29 |
| Florida | 0.53 | 5 | Maryland | 0.13 | 30 |
| Vermont | 0.49 | 6 | Missouri | 0.13 | 31 |
| Idaho | 0.46 | 7 | Kentucky | 0.12 | 32 |
| Alabama | 0.40 | 8 | Minnesota | 0.12 | 33 |
| South Dakota | 0.40 | 9 | Michigan | 0.11 | 34 |
| New Mexico | 0.38 | 10 | Pennsylvania | 0.10 | 35 |
| Louisiana | 0.38 | 11 | Illinois | 0.10 | 36 |
| South Carolina | 0.35 | 12 | Rhode Island | 0.10 | 37 |
| Mississippi | 0.32 | 13 | Puerto Rico | 0.08 | 38 |
| Arkansas | 0.30 | 14 | Maine | 0.08 | 39 |
| Oklahoma | 0.29 | 15 | New Jersey | 0.07 | 40 |
| West Virginia | 0.28 | 16 | Connecticut | 0.06 | 41 |
| Georgia | 0.23 | 17 | New York | 0.04 | 42 |
| North Carolina | 0.21 | 18 | Washington | 0.03 | 43 |
| Indiana | 0.20 | 19 | Massachusetts | 0.03 | 44 |
| Ohio | 0.19 | 20 | Oregon | 0.03 | 45 |
| Kansas | 0.19 | 21 | California | 0.01 | 46 |
| Tennessee | 0.18 | 22 | Alaska | 0 | 47 |
| Nebraska | 0.18 | 23 | Delaware | 0 | 48 |
| Iowa | 0.17 | 24 | D.C. | 0 | 49 |
| Virginia | 0.17 | 25 | Hawaii | 0 | 50 |
| | | | Nevada | 0 | 51 |
| | | | New Hampshire | 0 | 52 |

The lightning fatality data were collected by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). They come from monthly and annual summaries compiled by the National Weather Service and published in monthly issues of *Storm Data*. Data for recent years are available at:
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